

Middlesex/Union Counties ALB Infestation

As of June 3, 5,790 trees have been removed from the Middlesex/Union ALB quarantine area. Of those, 507 were infested host trees and 5,283 were high-risk exposed host trees. Crews continued removing trees this week in areas of Rahway and Carteret. Currently, 24 program personnel from USDA APHIS PPQ, NJDA, NJ Forest Service are performing survey, control and regulatory activities.

Tree treatments in the Middlesex/Union Counties ALB quarantine area began on May 24. Approximately 20,000 trees will be treated with the insecticide imidacloprid by the time treatment is completed. The insecticide is being injected into the tree's trunk or into the soil surrounding the tree. The treatment is a preventive measure aimed at host trees currently deemed to be at low risk of infestation.

The New Jersey State Forest Service's landscaping contractor continued planting non-host trees in the Carteret and Woodbridge areas of the removal zone. A total of 700 trees are slated to be planted this spring.

Jersey City/Hoboken ALB Infestation

Four program personnel along with two USDA Forest Service Smokejumpers and one NJDA supervisor tree climber continue to perform survey and regulatory activities in the Jersey City/Hoboken ALB quarantine area. To date, no signs of ALB have been detected.

Public Outreach:

A message from New Jersey Agriculture Secretary Charles M. Kuperus is running on the front page of the June edition of the *Gardener News*, urging residents to be watchful for any signs of the beetle as the time for re-emergence nears. Mid- to late-June is typically the time when any larvae that have wintered over in a tree, and pupated into an adult, begin to bore back out of the tree, leaving the telltale dime-sized exit hole. Residents were urged to call 1-866-BEETLE 1 if they suspect they have seen signs of ALB infestation.